

CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

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ADEN. *Dec. 5.*—It was learned that some 34 persons had been killed and over 100 injured in riots following demonstrations against the U.N. decision to partition Palestine.

ARGENTINE. *Dec. 3.*—The British trade mission, headed by Sir Clive Baillieu, began talks with Señor Miranda, President of the National Economic Council.

AUSTRALIA. *Nov. 26.*—The Banking Bill, providing for the nationalisation of private banks throughout the country, was passed by both Houses of Parliament.

Dec. 4.—The Prime Minister, Mr. Chifflery, announced that the Government had banned the spending of dollars for travel except for essential business.

AUSTRIA. *Nov. 24.*—Agreement on Alto Adige. (*see Italy.*)

Dec. 3.—A financial agreement was concluded between the Government and the Soviet Union securing Russian consent to the Monetary Reform Bill, and including a final settlement of the Austrian Government's debt to the Soviet Union amounting to 600 million schillings, which was granted as a loan in German marks immediately after the liberation in April, 1945.

Dec. 4.—The Allied Council, in secret session, approved the Monetary Reform Bill.

Dec. 7.—The Soviet occupation authorities made the export of food, feeding stuffs, oil and petroleum products, fuel, timber, metals, machines, and building materials from the Soviet zone, including Vienna, conditional upon the grant of special transport permits which

they would issue. (The four-Power control agreement of July, 1946, had guaranteed free interchange of domestic products throughout all four zones.)

BELGIUM. *Nov. 26.*—The Governments of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg sent a joint Note to the Council of Foreign Ministers and also to the Governments of the 4 Great Powers giving their views on Allied policy on Germany. They said they did not "aim at attaining their security through a large-scale reduction of the German economic capacity except for such machinery and material as is typically destructive, the production of which should be forbidden. Not only would such a reduction probably prove to be a fiction and seriously impair their own economies as well as that of Europe as a whole, but it will also be advisable to leave the Germans, now that they have been deprived of their political ambitions, such scope of activity as will provide them a satisfactory level of material life as well as hopeful prospects." Economic unity was a primary condition for Germany's economic rehabilitation. They detailed as guarantees that this economic power was not misused: the restoration of political responsibility within a federal constitution; control of the whole German economy to ensure demilitarisation according to the Byrnes plan; special international control of the Ruhr, in which the three Governments would take part; and maintenance of military control over certain strategic centres, exercised as part of the international régime. The three Governments expressed regret that the occupation authorities "have not given adequate consideration to the vital interests of the three countries, particularly the economic interests". They felt that it would be intolerable to benefit the economy of Germany by any measure that would favour it in comparison with the economy of Allied countries or would be detrimental to the latter.

BULGARIA. *Nov. 25.*—Marshal Tito, in a speech in Sofia, said: "We shall establish co-operation [with Bulgaria] so general and so close that the question of federation will be a mere formality. We cannot but set out on a new way, and link our common destinies, to share in the future all our possessions and to enjoy them together. While we are making great efforts for the economic reconstruction of our countries, we will march together in the building and consolidating of a new and real popular democracy in the defence of our frontiers, our homelands, and our peoples. We shall march together in creating a better future for ourselves. This is our task, and we have come here to establish and to consolidate definitely together with the responsible Bulgarian statesmen what was agreed on in Bled."

Nov. 27.—It was announced that a treaty of friendship, co-operation, and mutual aid covering a 20-year period had been signed with Yugoslavia. Referring to the U.N. Balkans Commission, the statement declared: "The creation of this commission is an offence against the status of the United Nations and the principle of unanimity of the Big Five, as well as prejudicing the sovereignty of the Balkan peoples.

This is why the two contracting parties cannot afford any collaboration whatever with the commission, and cannot allow it access to their territory."

BURMA. *Nov. 24.*—It was reported that a "Marxist League", consisting of members of the existing Socialist organisation (the Socialist Party and the People's Volunteer Organisation), had been formed.

Dec. 2.—Visit of Ministers to India. (*see India.*)

CANADA. *Dec. 4.*—At the closing session of the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference Mr. J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, and Sir Andrew Jones, head of the British Food Mission in Ottawa, emphasised that scarcity of dollars was overshadowing the Anglo-Canadian negotiations then in progress. Sir Andrew said that only sheer necessity had brought about the reduction in the scale of British rations, and if a course of action had to be followed now which was unpalatable to both countries, it would be due to dire necessity. Mr. Gardiner emphasised that a stabilised agricultural economy in Canada depended on the degree of confidence that she had in her markets. During the war agriculture had been adapted to meet the British market in which confidence had been established. Britain was now in a very difficult position, but in terms of statistics Canada's financial position was just as difficult. The problem was to ensure that Britain got enough food and that the Canadian farmers got enough money for their produce.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, on his return to Ottawa after visiting Britain, the U.S.A., France, Belgium, and Holland, said that there was no telling what might happen in Western Europe if America and others failed to send economic aid immediately. There was no time to be lost.

Dec. 5.—The Governor-General, Lord Alexander, in a speech opening Parliament said that the inability of many nations to increase their exports in sufficient measure to pay for their imports had greatly complicated the Canadian foreign exchange position. While employment and national income had reached levels never before attained, the country had not been unaffected by the problems and difficulties of other countries. He observed that the scarcity of U.S. dollars would necessarily limit Canadian capacity to give further assistance to other countries. But Canada continued to be one of the few great producing lands with capacities unimpaired by the war, and, in proportion to her population, her record in giving assistance to the war-devastated countries had not been equalled by any other nation. She would continue to apply the principle of mutual assistance in her effort to further world recovery, but such assistance must take into account the exchange difficulties which had arisen.

CEYLON. *Dec. 4.*—The House of Representatives adopted by 59 votes to 11 with 29 absentees the following resolution moved by the Prime Minister, Mr. D. S. Senanayake: "This House rejoices that after

many years of subjection to foreign rule the struggle of the people of Ceylon for freedom has culminated in the attainment of independence."

CHINA. *Nov. 30.*—It was learned that a Far Eastern Communist Information Bureau had been set up at Harbin on Nov. 20 at a conference attended by delegates from the U.S.S.R., Outer Mongolia, Korea, and China.

Dec. 3.—A regrouping of military commands in North China was announced, with a view to achieving more effective co-operation between the different commanders.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. *Nov. 24.*—The Government decided that 2-year term conscripts should do 16 months' military service and 8 months' labour service, chiefly in mines, agriculture, and building.

Nov. 28.—An agreement was reached with Yugoslavia whereby 20,000 tons of Yugoslav maize and 20,000 tons of grain would be exchanged for livestock.

DENMARK. *Dec. 4.*—A trade agreement was concluded with Hungary providing for the export from Denmark of seed, waste wool, and fish, in exchange for radio valves, electric bulbs, and tarpaulin.

EGYPT. *Dec. 1.*—The Government sent a Note to Britain on the proposals for the Sudan which the Governor-General had endorsed on Aug. 5 and which modified the legislature and the executive with a view to giving the Sudanese a greater share in the Central Government. They put forward counter-proposals.

Dec. 2.—Demonstrations against the partition of Palestine occurred in Cairo and Alexandria. At Zagazig the British Institute and its library were set on fire by demonstrators.

Addressing a large crowd of students and youths who invaded the Arab League headquarters shouting "We want arms", the Secretary-General, Azzam Pasha, said that the Arabs would fight, but causes were not won by shouting in the streets. They should volunteer and they would be armed, but there would be a long struggle demanding endurance, patience and steadiness, after which the Arabs would win as they had won against the Crusaders, Tartars, and others. Secondly, the Arabs must remember their duty to foreigners within their gates. Above all, they must realise that there were elements who wished to make trouble between the Arabs and their friends.

The Council of Al-Azhar University issued a call for "world wide holy war in defence of Arab Palestine".

Dec. 4.—In Cairo two tramcars were overturned and burnt and the American University stoned in the course of continued demonstrations against the partition of Palestine.

FINLAND. *Nov. 25.* Some 50,000 Civil Servants throughout the country went on strike for higher wages.

Nov. 27.—The Government mobilised railway officials.

Nov. 28.—The President received a deputation of strikers and the strike was later called off, no wage increases having been given.

FRANCE. Nov. 24.—The Moselle miners returned to work. The railway strike, which was now backed by the C.G.T., spread. Some postal workers in Paris went on strike.

Nov. 25.—The railwaymen's union ordered a general strike. The Prime Minister, M. Schuman, met C.G.T. leaders, who put forward their demands for a 25 per cent increase in wages and measures to prevent this from reacting on prices, and an assurance that wages would be reviewed every 3 months. He also received the head of the Christian trade unions who presented demands, but who also insisted that the Government should enforce the right to work and the secrecy of voting.

More postal workers went on strike.

Nov. 26.—The Government expelled 19 Soviet nationals resident in France, some of whom were prominent members of the "Union of Soviet Patriots", for their unwarranted interference in French internal affairs, notably during the recent social disorders.

The Speaker of the British House of Commons arrived on an official visit.

The Prime Minister, in a broadcast, said that the Government had decided to give a monthly cost-of-living indemnity of 1,500 francs to all Paris workers, except State employees, and that the proportionate sums should be paid outside the capital according to the scale of the cost of living already in use in the various regions. Civil servants would receive 1,125 francs, plus a 30 per cent increase of their residential indemnity. Payment of the indemnity would start as from Nov. 24, but there would be no pay for the time in which workers had been on strike. The Government would also introduce into Parliament immediately two Bills providing for a substantial increase in family allowances and war pensions. He said that if these increases were to raise the buying power of their recipients it was essential that production be resumed and increased. He appealed to all, and especially to miners, to return to work. The Government would hasten to work out their economic policy and, in particular, a revision of the export programme to see if it would be possible to make more consumer goods available at home. He said there was a "right to work" as well as a "right to strike", and called for an end to "political agitation, which is deeply harmful to the real interests of the working class and to the entire nation".

The C.G.T. rejected the Prime Minister's proposals claiming that they were inadequate, included no reference to a minimum monthly wage, and refused the quarterly revision of wages. The Christian trade unions said the Government's offer was a noteworthy effort to help the workers, but declared that the first need was a return to work.

Some railway and postal workers still continued to work, despite, in some places, opposition from strikers.

The *Force Ouvrière* issued a statement denouncing the Communist-

led move for a general strike, and called on the workers to return to their jobs.

Nov. 27.—The Prime Minister, speaking in the Assembly, said that the Government was ready to defend "public order and the régime" and that the workers would be protected from "terrorism" in their resistance to the orders of the revolutionaries.

Some 20 unions affiliated to the C.G.T. formed a national strike committee with the purpose of co-ordinating action and seeing that strikes spread. The postal strike spread further. Newspapers were reduced to 2 pages because of the difficulties of transporting news-print.

Nov. 28.—The National Federation of Miners called a general strike. The Civil servants' unions voted by 6 to 4 against a strike. The Paris public service workers' union decided to go on strike. Postal strikers put 3 telephone exchanges out of action but were later evicted by the police and the service was restored. There was improvement in railway services, but there were acts of sabotage on the railways.

Gen. Noguès, Vichy Resident-General in Morocco in 1942, was sentenced in his absence to 20 years' imprisonment with hard labour, loss of civil rights, and confiscation of all property for having ordered French forces to resist Allied landings in Morocco.

Nov. 29.—The Prime Minister introduced a Bill providing for security measures for 6 months. He asked for: 1. Authority to mobilise 80,000 army reservists to be placed under the Minister of Interior to reinforce the police in maintaining order. 2. Prison sentences of six months to five years and fines ranging from 1,000 to 500,000 francs for preventing workers carrying on with their jobs. 3. Doubled penalties for sabotage or armed violence against non-strikers. 4. Heavy penalties for agitators, both in speeches and in the press. 5. Immediate dismissal of any Government employee guilty of any of the above acts.

M. Schuman declared: "We must arm against all of those who seek to disintegrate the forces of the State and to sap the authority of the Government. The country must recover quickly its tranquillity."

The Communists barracked all speakers during the debate in an attempt to obstruct the passing of the Bill.

The police confiscated copies of the Communist papers *Ce Soir* and *L'Humanité*, which had accused the Government of attempting to "assassinate the Republic," destroy the Constitution and the right to strike.

The Government opened negotiations with the C.G.T., but these were stopped later because the C.G.T. refused to call off the strikes and the Government would not continue talks until this had been done. The Government did, however, maintain contact with the *Force Ouvrière*.

Nov. 30.—After a session lasting 35 hours, the Assembly rejected some 212 Communist amendments to the Government's Bill providing for security measures.

Bordeaux dockers and workers in a Paris flour mill returned to work. Sabotage of electrical plants and railways continued, and it was learned that some 300 saboteurs had been arrested in the past 3 days.

Negotiations with the C.G.T. were resumed and later broken off.

Dec. 1.—The C.G.T. issued a statement on its negotiations with the Government parts of which were approved by both Communist and Socialist groups within the C.G.T. and the remainder divided into majority (Communist) and minority (Socialist) texts. The Communist resolution rejected Government offers on the ground that they were inadequate. The Socialists considered that, while there were drawbacks to the offers, they presented advantages not to be ignored, and the Socialists were ready to enter into discussions with the Government on the problem of economic equilibrium. The unanimous part of the statement said there was no schism within the C.G.T., and condemned any measure calculated to attack trade union liberties.

The Upper Chamber decided by 132 votes to 35 to reject *en bloc* the Communist amendments to the Government's Bill.

More trains were running, but further sabotage on the railways was reported. There was a strike of electricity workers in Paris and the Métro services were stopped. Police later forced strikers to leave Paris power stations.

During the debate in the Assembly, a Communist deputy, M. Calas, made remarks that were interpreted as an incitement to troops not to obey any orders to take action against strikers. Amid uproar, all non-Communist deputies left the Chamber and when the sitting was later resumed voted for the suspension of the deputy on the charge that he had called the army to disobedience. The House then adjourned but the deputy refused to leave the tribune and all the Communists refused to leave the Chamber.

Dec. 2.—In the early morning, after spending a night in the Chamber with other Communists, M. Calas allowed himself to be led out by four unarmed Gardes Mobiles.

Large numbers of strikers returned to work in different parts of France. Fighting between workers and pickets was reported from several places. Normal Métro were resumed.

Dec. 3.—The return to work continued, but sabotage and violence increased. Some 20 people lost their lives and 50-60 were injured when the night express from Paris to Lille was derailed by saboteurs at Arras. A number of other cases of main line sabotage were reported. Arrests of strikers were made in several towns, and tear gas was used to break up resistance.

In a statement in the National Assembly, which was strongly guarded by troops and police, M. Jules Moch, the Minister of the Interior, said the strikes were receding, but that the attitude of those who could not resign themselves to their setback was growing more extreme. On the railways only 5 per cent of the staffs were now on strike, but pressure of all descriptions, violent speeches, efforts of every kind marked the endeavour to impede the success of the Marshall plan. M. Moch accused the Communists of following not economic but political aims of an international character. They were out to crush the Marshall plan, and M. Thorez, who had just returned from Moscow, knew this better than anyone else.

Dec. 4.—The National Assembly adopted by 413 votes to 183

the Government's measure on the protection of the right to work.

Two strikers were killed at Valence when 2,000 demonstrators led by a Communist Deputy stormed the station, and after some hours' fighting overwhelmed the police in occupation of it.

Seven more cases of railway sabotage were reported, high tension pylons were blown up near Bordeaux, and disorders occurred in several provincial towns.

In a speech to miners on strike at Hénin-Liétard, M. Thorez, Secretary-General of the Communist Party, said: "Today after the Communists have been removed from the Government by order of American capital the Government is refusing to grant your legitimate demands. It is persecuting the militant workers, and has declared war on the trade unions." He compared the wrecking of the Paris-Lille express with the Reichstag fire.

M. Teitgen, Minister for the Armed Forces, ordered the recall of 80,000 troops to supplement the police and mobile guards, bringing up to 220,000 the number by which the troops in France had been increased in the past fortnight.

The executive committee of the Civil Service Union rejected the Government proposals for wage increases and reclassification of jobs, and called on members to cease work from Dec. 5 till the night of Dec. 8.

Dec. 5.—Polish help for strikers. (*see Poland.*)

The President received the executive committee of the C.G.T. at their request.

Official estimates gave the following figures of losses due to the strikes: coal, 2m. tons; iron ore, 400,000 tons; pig iron, 130,000 tons; manufactured steel goods, 160,000 tons.

Civil servants in the Christian Trade Unions decided not to join in the strike called by the C.G.T. Union. Primary school teachers in Paris returned to work, but others in the educational services went on strike.

Dec. 7.—The Minister of Labour, M. Mayer, received non-Communist members of the C.G.T. He later proposed a payment of 750 francs cost-of-living allowance to each worker on the resumption of work, and offered an assurance that the Government's general economic measures would enable a stable relation between wages and prices until next June. The majority group of the C.G.T. turned down this offer, maintaining its previous demand for 1,125 to 1,500 francs and the guarantee of a sliding scale.

More men returned to work, and it was estimated that the number of men on strike, which at one point had been some two million, had dropped to less than one million.

GERMANY. *Nov. 25.*—The Anglo-American zone and the Soviet zone signed an agreement renewing and extending the inter-zonal trade agreement of 1947. They undertook to deliver in 1948 supplies to the value of 150m. reichmarks each, an increase of 50 per cent on cur-

rent supplies. The combined zone would send iron and steel products, tyres, and chemicals and the Soviet zone pit-props, textiles, and agricultural products.

Nov. 26.—Benelux Note on Germany. (*see Belgium.*)

Dec. 4.—10 former State secretaries, prosecutors and judges of Hitler's Ministry of Justice were found guilty of war crimes by an American military court at Nuremburg. 4 defendants were acquitted, 4 of those convicted were sentenced to imprisonment for life, and the others from 5 to 10 years' imprisonment.

GREAT BRITAIN. *Nov. 24.*—It was announced that a meeting had been held between Mr. Mackenzie King, Gen. Smuts, the High Commissioners for Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, India, and Pakistan, and prominent members of the Government "for a free and informal exchange of views on matters of common interest, particularly in the field of international relations".

Nov. 26.—The Speaker in Paris. (*see France.*)

Nov. 29.—Mr. Douglas, the U.S. Ambassador, referring to the Marshall plan in a speech at Prestwick, said that it was "no light undertaking for the United States". He continued: "There are many who have said my country must engage on this enterprise to preserve its own economic stability. No greater fallacy could be entertained by anyone. Our debts are heavy, our taxes are very high, our position is inflated like a great balloon. We are not a land of inexhaustible treasures. We are suffering very serious shortages, although we have not suffered from the immediate contact of the carnage of war. The United States has drawn upon its resources to an extent which is perhaps not fully comprehended on this side of the Atlantic. If therefore we embark on this enterprise, as I hope and believe we shall, we do so only for one moving and compelling reason — to establish stability, decency, and civilised living among the peoples of Europe. Our motives are clean, our ambitions are high, our desires are no less noble than those of the people of any other land."

Dec. 1.—Note from Egypt on the Sudan. (*see Egypt.*)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer submitted to Parliament a White Paper (Cmd. 7268), which detailed the measures the Government proposed to reduce capital investment expenditure in 1948 from £1,600m. to £1,420m. Housing, factory building, road and bridge works, railway schemes, Government building, and the provision of electricity generating plant were affected, and the Paper showed that many major projects would have to be abandoned.

The Treasury announced that gross sales of gold during November amounted to £48m. Also \$60m. were purchased from the International Monetary Fund.

Dec. 2.—The Minister of Fuel and Power announced that the National Coal Board was being given discretion to ship occasional cargoes of coal abroad. Potential customers would be countries which participated in the Conference on European Economic Co-operation, and in due course other countries, subject in each case to securing for

the United Kingdom a good return in food, raw materials, or dollar saving.

Dec. 3.—The U.S., Soviet and French delegations to the Foreign Ministers' Conference were received by the King and Queen at a party at Buckingham Palace.

The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Harold Wilson, left for Moscow at the head of a delegation to resume the trade negotiations with the U.S.S.R.

It was reported to the Executive Committee of the National Union of Mineworkers that the miners of all coalfields had unanimously accepted the national wage agreement negotiated with the National Coal Board. (*see p. 664.*)

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Creech Jones, stated in the House of Commons that the Palestine Government was responsible for the maintenance of law and order until the Mandate was finally surrendered, and would continue to take all possible steps to preserve order and to prevent such tragic and unhappy conflicts. The Arab leaders in Palestine were fully informed of this. He said the Government would wholeheartedly associate itself with the tribute paid by a Member to the conduct of the British troops and the Palestine police. He confirmed that British troops would be withdrawn, and that it was hoped that the final withdrawal would be on August 1st, 1948.

Dec. 4.—M. Gregoire Constantescu, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Rumanian Legation in London, sent his resignation to Bucharest.

Dec. 5.—U.S. loan unfrozen. (*see U.S.A.*)

GREECE. *Nov. 24.*—A heavily armed band raided Amalias in north-western Peloponnesus and tried to release some 200 convicts. Another band looted Galaxidion. Rebel positions round the town were shelled by naval craft.

Nov. 26.—The Minister of Public Order, M. Rentis, stated that the Government was rapidly reaching its target of 100 national defence battalions numbering 500 men each. These battalions, consisting of army reservists, gendarmerie and citizens, volunteering for the defence of their own districts would consolidate public security in the towns and countryside and leave the army free for offensive operations.

Heavy fighting was reported from the Grevena area in western Macedonia, and on Mt. Kerdillion in north-east Salonika and at Doirani.

Nov. 28.—Heavy fighting was reported north of Drama, near the Bulgarian frontier and north of Edessa, near the Yugoslav frontier. Strong rebel bands attacked army units near Grevena, and also raided Zitsa, where they were driven back. It was reported that rebel groups based on Mt. Grammos near the Albanian frontier were trying to filter back into areas recently cleared by the army.

Dec. 2.—The U.N. Balkans Commission arrived in Salonika, which was to be its H.Q.

Heavy fighting continued in Epirus, and the Army sent a request

to the U.N. Commission to send observers to watch rebel movement across the Albanian frontier.

Dec. 7.—Parliament passed a Bill forbidding strikes and lock-outs during the present "armed rebellion". Heavy punishment, including the death penalty, was provided to deal with instigators.

The public services in Athens called a strike for the following day.

HUNGARY *Dec. 4.*—Trade pact. (*see Denmark.*)

Dec. 7.—Marshal Tito, who was in Hungary on a visit, said in a speech in Budapest that the similar systems prevailing in the two countries, both "tending towards true democracy", greatly contributed to the consolidation of friendship. It did not matter that Hungary was not a Slav country.

INDIA. *Nov. 25.*—Mr. Nehru, in a speech to the Legislative Assembly said that Pakistan had prepared "a carefully planned and well-organised raid into Kashmir with the deliberate object of seizing the State by force and then declaring its accession to Pakistan". He went on: "We have evidence in our possession to demonstrate that the whole business of the Kashmir raids was deliberately organised by high officials of the Pakistan Government. They helped the tribesmen and ex-service men to collect, they supplied them with the implements of war, with lorries, petrol, and officers. They are continuing to do so. Indeed, their high officials openly declare so. It is obvious that no large body of men could cross Pakistan territory in armed groups without the good will, connivance, and active help of the authorities there . . . The Pakistan Government have proposed a simultaneous withdrawal of our forces and the raiders from Kashmir. This was a strange proposal, and could only mean that raiders were there at the instance of the Pakistan Government. We cannot treat with freebooters who have murdered large numbers of people and tried to ruin Kashmir. They are not a State, although a State may be behind them."

It was announced that, as a result of the negotiations between the Government and the Hyderabad delegation, the present standstill agreement would be extended for a year from Nov. 29. It was learnt that during the period covered by the agreement no paramount powers would be exercised by India, and Hyderabad would be allowed to appoint agents-general in foreign countries, including Pakistan, but that their functions would be confined to trade and commerce.

Nov. 26.—The Joint Defence Council met in Delhi and decided to continue in existence after Nov. 30, notwithstanding the withdrawal of the Supreme Commander. Its composition would be changed to include two Ministers, instead of one, from each Dominion.

Indian troops relieved Kotli, which had been besieged by raiders for 31 days.

Nov. 27.—Raiders and rebels continued attacks on villages in Jammu and 40 villages were reported completely destroyed.

Nov. 28.—Further discussions were held between Mr. Nehru and the Deputy Premier, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and the Pakistan Prime

Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, and Finance Minister, Ghulam Mohammad.

Dec. 1.—Sheikh Abdullah, in an interview with the British press in Delhi, stated: "The Kashmir episode may well pave the way for communal peace in India. The accession of Kashmir, which has an 80 per cent Moslem majority, to the Indian Union will depend upon the goodwill shown to the Moslems by the Hindu majority in India. Our present accession to India is only tentative and is subject to confirmation by referendum. If India wants the people of Kashmir to elect for accession to India there must be communal peace in India." Asked whether in view of its overwhelming Moslem majority and the fact that there was the Moslem State of Pakistan right by its side Kashmir would not prefer electing for Pakistan, he said: "Our economic interests lie with India. Our trade connections are here and we have here extensive markets for our goods. But all that will be of no avail if we cannot come to India and live here in peace. Our only hope lies in bringing about an understanding quickly in the interest not merely of Kashmir, but of India and perhaps of Pakistan as well."

Dec. 2.—The Burmese Prime Minister, Thakin Nu, with the Foreign Minister, U Tin Tut, and the general secretary of the A.F.P.F.L., U Ba Swe arrived in Delhi on a short visit.

Dec. 5.—The "Azad Kashmir Provisional Government" announced that their forces had captured Akhnur after severe fighting.

THE INDIAN STATES. *Nov. 25.*—Hyderabad agreement. (*see India.*)

Dec. 4.—A bomb was thrown at the car of the Nizam of Hyderabad when he was out on the high road near his palace. Two passers-by were injured, but the Nizam escaped unhurt and continued his drive. A man was arrested.

IRAQ. *Dec. 2.*—Demonstrations in Baghdad against the partition of Palestine passed off peacefully.

Dec. 4.—Demonstrators burnt files and documents and cut telephone wires in the Information Office at the U.S. Embassy but did not molest the staff. The British Institute kindergarten was broken into and the premises wrecked, 26 children being saved from injury by the teaching staff and police.

ITALY. *Nov. 24.*—An agreement was reached with Austria settling the future of former Italian citizens living in the Alto Adige who opted for Germany under the Hitler-Mussolini agreement of 1939 and now wish to return to Italy. It provided for the creation of a joint selection commission to examine applications from those who wished to regain Italian citizenship.

Nov. 25.—Labour unrest spread to Calabria. At Bisignano, police fired on rioters who had burned down right-wing party H.Q., killing one Communist and seriously injuring another. Armed reinforcements were held up by road blocks prepared by the rioters and came under heavy fire.

Nov. 26.—The Council of Ministers approved measures for the raising of fresh revenue to cover new expenses, including wage increases and the cost of new public works. These included new taxes on sales, sugar, petrol, and foreign cigarettes which, it was estimated, would yield some 160,000m. lire in a full year.

Nov. 27.—In Rome, gangs raided newspaper stalls and burned right-wing and independent papers.

The Ministry of the Interior issued figures showing that, of 82 political party offices devastated during disorders between Nov. 12 and 25, 72 belonged to right-wing parties, 7 to the Christian Democrats, and 3 to left-wing parties.

New regulations lowering the lira in terms of foreign currencies were announced.

Nov. 28.—The Ministry of the Interior removed the Prefect of Milan from his post. A local general strike was organised in protest, and rioters took charge of the prefecture.

A five-year trade agreement was signed with Yugoslavia. Besides exports by both countries valued at approximately 16,000m. lire yearly, a special protocol contemplated the supply of Italian industrial machinery and complete plants valued at \$150m., for which Yugoslavia would provide most of the raw materials.

Nov. 29.—The general strike in Milan was called off. A general strike was organised in Ancona as a protest against events in Milan and demonstrators wrecked right-wing party H.Q.

Dec. 1.—The special Court of Assize found Count Grandi not guilty on various Fascist charges, and he was acquitted.

Dec. 4.—U.S. loan. (*see U.S.A.*)

Police in armoured cars were called out in view of a general strike in the Anzio area.

The Government issued invitations to the sixteen nations which took part in the Marshall Plan Conference in Paris and some others to attend a meeting in Rome in January to discuss problems of European manpower.

Dec. 5.—At Primavalle on the northern outskirts of Rome crowds who were demonstrating for winter relief in food and housing clashed with the police, who had to open fire.

Dec. 7.—The last of the British troops left Italy.

JAPAN. *Dec. 1.*—It was learned that a revised criminal code was in force one feature of which was that the Emperor became, before the law, equal with the common people.

Figures prepared by Allied H.Q. showed that the population on Aug. 1 stood at 78,220,840, an increase of 5,851,698 since 1945. Of the latter figure, some 4,451,261 persons were returned to Japan under the repatriation schemes. The figures were not complete as no census could be taken in certain flooded areas.

KOREA. *Nov. 30.*—Far Eastern Cominform. (*see China.*)

THE LEBANON. *Dec. 2.*—Student demonstrations occurred in sympathy with the Palestine Arabs. A recruiting office for volunteers to fight in Palestine was opened and by evening 1,400 had enrolled.

Dec. 5.—Some 50,000 persons demonstrated against the U.N. decision to partition Palestine. The Prime Minister, addressing the crowd, said that the Arab States would meet as soon as possible to execute the liberation plans for Palestine.

LUXEMBOURG. *Nov. 26.*—Benelux Note. (*see Belgium.*)

THE NETHERLANDS. *Nov. 26.*—Benelux Note on Germany. (*see Belgium.*)

Dec. 1.—Queen Wilhelmina resumed the exercise of her royal powers.

PAKISTAN. *Nov. 26.*—Joint Defence Council meeting. (*see India.*)

Dec. 3.—The Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, had talks in Rawalpindi with "General Tariq", the "Commander-in-Chief" of the "Azad (Free) Kashmir" forces, and Sardar Ibrahim, President of the "Azad Kashmir Provisional Government".

PALESTINE. *Nov. 29.*—Partition plan passed. (*see page 715.*)

The Arab Higher Executive announced that it rejected partition completely.

Dec. 2.—The Arabs began a three-day protest strike. There was widespread arson, looting, and fighting between Arabs and Jews in Jerusalem and Jaffa-Tel Aviv. British troops had to intervene to rescue Jews from Arab mobs. A curfew was imposed on Arab quarters.

Protests in Arab countries. (*see Egypt, Iraq, The Lebanon and Syria.*)

Dec. 3.—Rioting continued. Arabs armed with automatic rifles and grenades fought their way against Jews of the Hagana into Tel Aviv and set fire to a big timber yard. British troops manned machine-gun posts in the area between Jaffa and Tel Aviv where 5 Arabs and 8 Jews were known to have been killed and over 70 others wounded. There were also incidents in Haifa and Jerusalem.

The Chief Secretary, Sir Henry Gurney, requested Dr. Hussein Khalidi, Secretary of the Arab Higher Committee, to end the Arab three-day strike immediately, but was subsequently informed that the Arab Higher Committee had rejected this request.

Statement on withdrawal. (*see Great Britain.*)

Dec. 4.—Disturbances continued. It was announced that the Arab Higher Executive had called off demonstrations scheduled for the following day, and appealed to the Arabs to remain quiet and orderly.

Three Arabs were injured when Jewish drivers of a convoy travelling under police escort from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv opened fire on Arab stone-throwers at Ramle. A second convoy was fired on by the Arabs

and fire was returned and bombs thrown by Jewish drivers. Sniping continued in Tel Aviv.

Dec. 5.—There was further fighting in Tel Aviv between Jews and Arabs, and police had to intervene.

The two Chief Rabbis addressed a proclamation to the heads of Islam appealing for peace and brotherliness in the Holy Land.

Riots in Aden. (*see Aden.*)

Dec. 6.—There were further outbreaks of street fighting in Jerusalem. Announcements in Hebrew papers stated that all Tel Aviv Jews between 18 and 25 years of age should register at Jewish Agency offices for service with Hagana. Youths between 16 and 17 were also asked to register for messenger duties.

PERSIA. *Nov. 25.*—The Government sent a Note to the U.S.S.R. "emphatically" rejecting the Soviet assertion that they were "following a hostile policy to the Soviet Union" in not granting oil rights to it. Under Majlis law no government official was permitted to discuss oil concessions with foreigners. The Majlis had decided that the proposal for even a joint oil company was illegal, and therefore the Prime Minister's discussions with the U.S.S.R. were null and void.

Dec. 1.—The Prime Minister, in a broadcast, declared that he had been prevented by the Opposition from speaking in Parliament and "certain elements" were intriguing against his Government. He said: "We must unite so as not to become another Greece or France. Persia's nearness to Russia, India, and Iraq, together with our having oil, excite the interest of other nations. Hence the need for extreme care. We not only did not give oil to the Russians but passed a law to restrict the Anglo-Persian Oil Company's concession and will strive to carry this out according to the nation's desire." He referred to the "changed attitude of Russia" since the decision of the Majlis forbidding foreign exploitation of the northern Persian oilfields, and he complained of broadcasts from Moscow. He also assured the country he would get back Bahrain Island (the independent sheikhdom in the Persian Gulf under British protection by treaty), and negotiations had already begun.

It was learned that attacks on the Government were being broadcast by a secret station, believed to be operating near Teheran, and the self-styled "Pishevari Democrats" were addressing the Azerbaijanis, promising liberation and revenge.

Dec. 4.—All members of the Government tendered their resignations to the Premier.

POLAND. *Dec. 3.*—The trial for treason began at a Warsaw military court of Maria Marynowska, who was employed as a translator in the press section of the British Embassy, and 5 other persons alleged to have constituted the co-ordination committee of all the underground armed opposition forces in Poland.

Dec. 4.—Treason trial. One of the prisoners, Wincentz Kwiecynski, stated to be the head of the secret W.I.N. organisation in central Poland, stated under examination that there existed an anti-Soviet

federation with members in 16 countries, including some of the States in southern U.S.S.R. It called itself "Isthmus" and was active in Poland, Yugoslavia, and other Balkan countries, as well as in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and the Ukraine. He had heard that the headquarters were in Italy. References were made in the proceedings to what was called the direct contact of the Polish underground leaders with the former British Ambassador, Mr. Cavendish-Bentink, and also to relations with the American Embassy.

Dec. 5.—The trade unions issued an appeal to their members for money and food for "the strikers in France".

RUMANIA. *Dec. 4.*—M. Tatarescu, former Foreign Minister and head of the National Liberal Party, announced his retirement from public life.

Resignation of Minister in London. (*see Great Britain.*)

SOUTH AFRICA. *Dec. 4.*—Talks on defence problems were held in Pretoria between Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, General Smuts, and Union Defence Chiefs.

SYRIA. *Nov. 30.*—In demonstrations against the partition of Palestine the crowd broke into the U.S. Legation and pulled down and tore up the U.S. flag. The windows of the French Legation were also broken.

Dec. 2.—Demonstrations continued in Damascus. At Aleppo a crowd set fire to Jewish buildings, but was dispersed by troops.

U.S.A. *Nov. 24.*—President Truman, in a report to Congress on the first quarter's operations of the \$350m. relief programme, stated that over \$88m. had been appropriated for Austria, \$27m. for China, \$38m. for Greece, \$121m. for Italy, \$9m. for Trieste, and \$15m. for the International Children's Emergency Fund.

Nov. 25.—The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Controller of Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the National Association of Supervisors of State Banks issued an appeal to the country's bankers to exercise "extreme caution" in their lending policies. They said the country was experiencing a boom of "dangerous proportions". The further growth of bank credit would add to the already excessive demands and make for still higher prices.

Nov. 28.—The Bureau of Census estimated the population at 144,708,000, an increase of nearly 10 per cent since 1940.

Nov. 29.—Speech by Mr. Douglas. (*see Great Britain.*)

Dec. 1.—The Senate passed by 83 votes to 6 the Interim Aid Bill giving aid amounting to \$597m. to France, Italy, and Austria.

Dec. 2.—Mr. David E. Lilienthal, Chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission revealed in Atlantic City that uranium and plutonium were being used in the manufacture of new atomic weapons at Los Alamos, New Mexico. He told the American Society of Mechanical Engineers that the U.S.A. had spent \$2,500 million on developing atomic energy.

Dec. 4.—A special Cabinet sub-committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Thomas Stillwell of the State Department was set up to carry out a new campaign to persuade the American people to eat less meat and wheat.

The Export-Import bank announced an extension of the equivalent of £1,560,250 credit to Italy to supply raw materials to Italian handicrafts, industries, and artisans.

It was announced that about 250 wives of American citizens had been refused exit visas from Russia. In addition 200 claimants to American citizenship had been forcibly removed to the Soviet Union from various countries of Eastern Europe.

Mr. Robert Lovett, Acting Secretary of State, told the Senate Appropriations Committee that in the event of France, Italy, or Austria coming under Communist control, he would recommend to the President that interim aid under the \$597m. Bill be stopped.

Dec. 5.—The State Department announced that, in view of current disorders in the Middle East, the Government had discontinued, as from that day, the licensing of shipments of arms and ammunition to "the troubled areas".

It was announced that Britain would resume drawings on its loan. The Secretary of the Treasury, in a statement to the press, said that the restoration of full convertibility of sterling must be delayed while the existing serious economic position continued. He emphasised that the release of the balance of the loan would do no more than permit Britain "to continue the purchases in the U.S.A. necessary to maintain its present austerity programme".

U.S.S.R. *Nov. 26.*—Expulsion of Soviet nationals. (*see France.*)

Nov. 28.—M. Valerian Zorin was appointed deputy Foreign Minister.

The Government sent a Note to China proposing a preliminary four-Power conference on the Japanese treaty to be held in China in January.

Nov. 30.—Formation of Far Eastern Cominform. (*see China.*)

Dec. 4.—A British trade delegation arrived in Moscow to resume talks.

YUGOSLAVIA. *Nov. 25.*—Speech by Marshal Tito. (*see Bulgaria.*)

Nov. 27.—Treaty of friendship and co-operation. (*see Bulgaria.*)

Nov. 28.—Trade agreements. (*see Italy and Czechoslovakia.*)

Dec. 7.—Marshal Tito in Hungary. (*see Hungary.*)

THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

Nov. 25.—The Council held their first meeting in London. Speaking on the agenda, M. Molotov agreed to a discussion of the U.S. draft treaty of guarantee against German aggression provided that the existing state of disarmament in all the zones of Germany be reviewed. He could not, however, agree that Austria be discussed before Germany since he considered Germany the more important. M. Bidault proposed that Austria be taken first but that the report of the treaty commission be immediately referred for further study to the deputies, and that the Ministers themselves should thereafter begin discussing Germany.

Nov. 26.—The Ministers agreed on the following agenda: 1. The Austrian treaty. 2. Preparation of the German peace treaty (frontiers and procedure). 3. Economic principles. 4. Form and scope of a provisional political organisation. 5. Carrying out of the Potsdam decisions on demilitarisation. 6. Four-Power disarmament treaty. A note, proposed by Mr. Bevin, was added to the agenda stating that discussion of an item need not be completed before passing on to another item. They also agreed to submit the draft Austrian treaty, together with the Austrian Treaty Commission's report, to their deputies.

M. Molotov said the peace treaty with Germany was the fundamental question before them, and postponement would not ease the difficulties. It was clear that a democratic peace should be based on the sovereignty and equality of nations large and small. The vanquished countries had a right also to strive for democracy. But certain Powers were seeking an imperialist peace and not a democratic peace, and in this were the seeds of war. Attempts to establish an imperialist peace were bound to meet with the opposition of many democratic States, including Russia. The German peace treaty should be framed so as to determine the destiny of Germany for a long time. It should be based on democratic principles which would allow for the economic reconstruction of Germany and for her democratic development. It should be based on Potsdam and Yalta. There was, however, another concept for the German treaty. This was to deny to Germany the possibilities of economic recovery with a view to destroying her as an economic competitor. Attempts would also be made to make use of Germany by Powers who needed her as a base for the development of war industries and who needed the reactionary forces of Germany against the democratic elements in European countries liberated from Fascism. In preparing the German peace treaty there were two questions to be decided. The first was the establishment of an all-German Government, which could not be postponed, and the second was a solution to the problem of a peace conference.

Benelux Note on Germany. (*see Belgium.*)

Nov. 27.—In discussion on frontiers the western Ministers agreed that an immediate study of all Germany's boundaries should be made; both Mr. Marshall and M. Bidault supported a proposal by Mr. Bevin that a frontier commission (or two commissions) should be established.

M. Molotov was opposed to any consideration of frontiers at this stage. He said the eastern frontier was settled and the others could be considered in later consultations. Mr. Marshall, after stating that Potsdam had declared that the final delimitation must await the peace settlement, said that it had been assumed by M. Molotov that a decision had already been taken, but this was not so. He went on: "We must consider the opinions of the population evacuated, and the importance of this frontier for the general economic and political stability of Europe . . . Agreement on a frontier is possible, and Poland is undoubtedly entitled to compensation for her war-time losses. The U.S.A. appreciates that claim. At the same time we have to be careful to avoid violating Atlantic Charter principles in drawing up these frontiers." He suggested that the Silesian industries (in the area transferred to Polish administration) should be more widely used and made available to the European economy generally, including both Poland and Germany.

M. Molotov circulated a memorandum on the machinery for preparing the peace treaty which made the following points: (1) that a German democratic Government should be formed straight away; (2) that this German Government would give its views on the draft treaty at the peace conference; (3) that the treaty should be signed by the German Government and be submitted to a German Parliament for ratification; (4) that the conference should consist of the five great Powers, the States neighbouring on Germany, and the States that took part in the common fight; and (5) that the decisions of Yalta and Potsdam should be the basis of the treaty. Mr. Marshall said that he could agree in principle that a German Government should be formed. He also agreed that the treaty should be signed by the German Government. But he thought it too early to say whether a German Government could present its views at the peace conference; it was a matter of timing, and he would like to discuss it later. He added "The U.S.A. consider that the establishment of a central German Government is an urgent necessity. We earnestly and most sincerely desire to see a democratic Government established in Germany at the earliest possible moment."

Mr. Bevin declared: "It is the desire of the British delegation that at the earliest possible opportunity a central Government should be established." The document he had presented to Moscow suggested the stages by which they could arrive at a central Government. Mr. Marshall and M. Bidault agreed that this document could be used as a basis for discussion.

Mr. Bevin added that if the principle of freedom of movement were accepted it would facilitate the resettlement of those Germans who were to remain in the country. In the British zone the population was completely unbalanced. He went on: "The main point regarding a central German Government involves its character. How is it to be elected? What powers is it to have? Unless these are very clearly defined we may find ourselves with a puppet German Government instead of a real democratic, independent one . . . I am opposed to the establishment of any central Government of a kind which could con-

ceivably lead to the establishment of a dictatorship, whatever name it may happen to be called by."

Nov. 28.—Mr. Bevin put forward a proposal for setting up a frontier commission which was accepted by France and the U.S.A. M. Molotov opposed the scheme, saying that they had already agreed at Moscow that a "committee on territorial adjustments and related problems" should be one of the 4 permanent committees to be set up at a later stage of preparing the treaty. There was, therefore, no point in establishing another committee. No agreement was reached. M. Molotov also stated that he could not agree to discuss at this time the economic attachment of the Saar to France. Turning to the question of a central German democratic Government, M. Molotov sought to show that the British Government was not concerned to set up an all German central Government but was looking to the establishment of a German Government in the Western zones alone. Mr. Bevin declared "I repeat what I said at Potsdam, at Moscow in 1945, in New York, and what I repeated in Moscow this year, and what I said yesterday, that I will strain every nerve and every effort to get a politically united Germany on the basis of democracy as we understand it, and not an over-centralised Government. I will try to get the economic unity of Germany, which is very difficult indeed in view of what has happened since Potsdam." He added that there was a growing belief among the British people that he was exercising too much patience, delaying things too long, and that there was no hope of agreement. He refused to agree to a type of centralised German Government which could again become a danger to the world. On the other hand he wanted to give to a central German Government powers sufficient to enable them to enjoy political and economic stability. He could not, therefore, accept the very narrow proposals put forward by M. Molotov the previous day. He went on "But if in the end peace is denied then surely you cannot ask us to stand still with Western Europe in chaos and do nothing at all—or was the creation of chaos the intention?" He was not in a position to commit Britain as to what might have to be done if, unfortunately, the four Ministers could not agree.

Nov. 29.—It was agreed that Pakistan should be included among the States to be consulted on the preparation of the German treaty, and that the inclusion of Albania, for which M. Molotov had pressed, should be discussed later.

In the discussion whether or not it was necessary to establish a central German Government before starting on the peace treaty. Mr. Bevin suggested a fresh compromise, that "representatives of a German Government adequate for the purpose of accepting a peace treaty will be given an opportunity of stating their views at the peace conference." He said: "We do not want to be unable to start a peace conference simply because we have no German Government; nor do we want to be unable to set up a German Government, provisionally or otherwise, merely because a peace conference has not been summoned." Mr. Marshall made similar suggestions. He offered to defer one American proposal, which would normally be discussed later, if M. Molotov was

ready to drop his insistence on the Soviet clause "that the German Government will be given an opportunity of stating its views at the conference". M. Molotov replied that the U.S.S.R. considered the formation of an all-German Government and a peace settlement as two inseparably linked questions, and the formation of an all-German Government must be realised before the convocation of the peace conference. These two questions could not be confused or substituted one for another. The U.S.S.R. did not agree that a peace treaty could be signed and drafted and a German Government appear to sign it two years or more later. He said that they must set up bodies to consult on the drafting of the peace treaty and "simultaneously" take measures to form an all-German democratic Government to sign it. The other countries with whom peace treaties had been signed had all had their Governments, which had stated their views in Paris, and Germany must have the same. A Government might be formed in Frankfurt or elsewhere in the Western zones, but it would be at best a "Government of Bizonia" and not of Germany, and could not play any part in solving the question of a peace treaty for the whole country. Mr. Bevin's proposal was "acceptable, but insufficient," and he proposed that they add the words: "the formation of an all-German democratic Government as stipulated by the decisions of the Potsdam conference is recognised as urgent."

Dec. 1.—M. Molotov objected to a U.S. and French proposal that the German Constitution should "contain a clause providing that all powers thereunder shall be exercised subject to, and in accordance with, the peace settlement agreed upon by and between the allies."

Mr. Marshall and M. Bidault both said that they were asking for no more than their own constitutions stipulated, and they thought that the German constitution should contain a similar provision as a guarantee. Mr. Bevin said that he could accept the inclusion of the clause, although he suggested that the wording might be clarified. Mr. Marshall and M. Bidault agreed. M. Molotov said that the acceptance of the phrasing would mean that the existence of the German Constitution would be subject to the treaty being fulfilled. He went on: "What would comprise a failure to fulfil the treaty, and who would decide it? Will not this mean that any point which any Power may allege to contravene the treaty might be used by that Power to disrupt the constitution? The question is: How do we regard Germany? Do we want to make a new democratic Germany subject to the whims of this or that Power?" If they did, Germany would become simply a colony in the middle of Europe, and any attempt to make Germany a colony was contrary to democratic peace. The task before the Ministers was to turn an aggressive Germany into a peace-loving and democratic State. The U.S.S.R., with the other three Powers, would undertake that responsibility; but, if the other Powers believed that it was impossible, then they would have to look to the possibility of a subjugated Germany, even after four-Power control ended. Certainly control would be needed for many years, until they were sure that Germany was "peace loving and democratic" and settled for a peaceful future. Long-term

control was in the interests both of Germany and of all democratic countries; but thereafter, when the task was accomplished, Germany should be fitted for independent democratic life. To place it in a position of subjection to "whims" would merely provide the opportunities for revenge dreamed of by reactionaries and adventurers. Mr. Marshall and M. Bidault replied that their own countries were not "colonies" of anyone because their constitutions had similar provisions, and Mr. Marshall said writing the terms of the peace treaty into the constitution could not make Germany any more or any less of a colony than the terms of the peace treaty itself. Mr. Bevin declared that all the phrase meant was that the German constitution should conform to, and be in harmony with, the peace treaty.

On the question whether a German Government had to be formed before a wider peace conference could be summoned, Mr. Bevin proposed: "Representatives of a German Government adequate for the purpose of accepting the peace treaty will be given an opportunity of stating their views at the peace conference." He explained that the conference need not wait for the formation of a German Government, but there should be a Government before the conference finished its work. M. Molotov said he would study the proposal, but maintained that there should be a Government by the time the conference began.

On the manner in which the wider peace conference should vote, M. Molotov accepted an amended U.S. proposal that the Council of Foreign Ministers should draw up the final text of the treaty, "taking into consideration" recommendations of the conference whether passed by a two-thirds majority or by a simple majority. M. Bidault said he could accept the amended proposal, subject to agreement on the membership of the conference. Mr. Bevin deferred his opinion, for there had been a suggestion that the peace conference should devise its own voting procedure.

During the meeting M. Molotov formally circulated the proposal (made verbally on Nov. 28), suggesting that the Council should declare "incorrect" any plans for setting up governments in any of the zones of Germany.

Dec. 2.—The Foreign Ministers continued their discussion of procedure for drawing up the German peace treaty. It was agreed that voting at the peace conference should be as it was at the Paris Peace Conference; and there was also agreement on the form of the reports to be made by the four committees which were to be set up to deal with the German treaty. But there was no agreement on the constitution of these committees. The U.S.S.R. proposed committees consisting of representatives of the four great Powers only; France proposed that the four great Powers should invite the Allied States concerned to take part; The U.S.A. proposed four Powers plus a convenient number of representatives from the Allied States; Britain proposed either the four Powers plus representatives of such of the Allied States as might decide to be represented, or the four Powers together with a maximum of ten of the Allied States. Mr. Molotov accepted the French scheme, and withdrew his own, but Mr. Bevin said that certain States which

played a vital part in the war would be excluded from some of the committees under the French proposal and he was under instructions to exclude no one.

Dec. 3.—Mr. Marshall restated the American proposal that all States which had been at war with Germany should take part in the making of a treaty. Mr. Bevin proposed that the conference should consist of the Big Four, the Allied States who were neighbours of Germany, and those who participated with their armed forces, but that they might invite, by a majority vote, the representatives of other allies and ex-enemy States which subsequently participated with their armed forces in the war against Germany, to be associated in its proceedings to present views and to take part in committees. M. Molotov accepted in principle this proposal and the previously accepted French proposal. As Mr. Marshall could not agree, this clause together with the whole of the procedure document and all its unagreed items was sent back to the Deputies with instructions to produce a clean draft. M. Molotov then proposed that the Ministers should submit their basic proposals for a German peace treaty "within two months". He said they had talked a good deal about procedure but not much about the actual preparation of the treaty, and they had ignored his requirement tabled a week ago that the peace treaty with Germany should be based on the Yalta and Potsdam decisions. Mr. Marshall said that there was no purpose to be served by re-hashing discussions of the past, and Mr. Bevin agreed.

The Ministers turned to Austria, and Mr. Bevin said that British policy rested on the solemn obligation undertaken in the Moscow Declaration of 1943 to re-establish an independent sovereign and prosperous State. He associated himself with the French proposal for solving the central dispute about the disposal of German assets in Austria.

Dec. 4.—Mr. Marshall and Mr. Bevin urged M. Molotov to declare exactly what the U.S.S.R. was demanding in respect of German assets in Austria. Mr. Marshall said: "The Soviet delegation has never stated its claims in specific terms. The Austrian people and the Allies have a right to know and I ask for those terms now. Has the Soviet delegation repudiated the Moscow Declaration on a free and independent Austria?" Later he said: "There is no mystery why the four Powers cannot agree. The Soviet delegation refuses to specify its demands." Mr. Bevin said: "If only we knew the full extent of the Soviet claim, we could judge it. Let us have the claim and see what it is." He urged the necessity for speed in decision. The sooner they got a treaty with Austria the sooner it could be an independent and prosperous Power. M. Molotov reiterated that the solution of the Austrian question should rest on the declarations made at Potsdam and Moscow, and complained that new proposals about Austria were now being put forward to which the Soviet delegation could not agree. Mr. Marshall said that the U.S.A. did not repudiate Potsdam, but did not intend to allow any agreement to be distorted to accomplish purposes which most certainly were not the intentions of the original signatories. If the so-called definition of German assets was taken at its face value, the

U.S.S.R. appeared to be claiming far more than it was awarded at Potsdam.

The Yugoslav Ambassador in London, M. Leontic, stated at a press conference that his Government had submitted to the Council of Foreign Ministers a request to be heard on the Austrian treaty.

Dec. 5. —The Ministers discussed "economic principles."

Mr. Marshall said that they had now passed to the "harsh realities of the present situation existing in Germany", and suggested that they should "drop generalities expressing our desire for a central government and try to find out what each delegation really has in mind respecting a settlement for Germany". It was useless to go on talking about their anxiety for a central German government unless they were prepared to create the conditions necessary for such a government to function. Any German government called upon to administer a Germany divided as it was today by the policies of the occupying Powers would be a sham and a delusion. He suggested that the common principles necessary to enable a government to function effectively should be "basic freedom for the individual; abolition of zonal boundaries except as delimitation of occupation areas with no hindrance to the free flow of persons, ideas and goods throughout the whole of Germany; and a clear determination of the economic burdens the German people are to bear".

M. Bidault announced that he could now move much nearer to the proposals of the others for the level of German steel production. He said that if exports of coal and coke were guaranteed, and if German reconstruction were not given any kind of priority, then he could agree to "a figure approximating to those proposed by the others" (about 11 m. tons a year). It was necessary to ensure that a special régime be applied to the Ruhr. This status must be completed by the conclusion of a guarantee treaty similar to that proposed by the U.S. Government. He went on: "If these various provisions are adopted the problem of the level of German industry takes on a different aspect." The French Government did not object to Germany being treated as a single economic unit "without prejudicing the status of the Ruhr and the Rhineland", and always provided that the Saar was integrated into the economic and monetary system of France". He added that the idea of securing reparations from current production should not be rejected without consideration, and should be studied, taking into account the danger of increasing Germany's industrial potential merely to pay such reparations.

Mr. Bevin brought forward once again the statement of policy that he had first tabled at Moscow setting out in detail the means by which German economic unity could be achieved, and providing for the removal of all restrictions on the movement of goods between zones, a common import-export programme, the sharing of all resources, a balanced economy, and that Germany should first pay back to the Allies the money spent in feeding it and supplying it with essential goods before it be called upon to pay any reparations from the output of factories. (This refers to the previous Soviet claim for reparations totalling \$10,000m. as a prior charge on German production.)

M. Molotov noted that the British position seemed not to have changed since Moscow, but that the French appeared to have developed. He said that the Potsdam provisions should be fulfilled, and that Germany should shoulder her obligations to the Allies before Potsdam could be revised. Britain and the U.S.A. had broken the Potsdam agreement, and agreements reached at Moscow, by setting a new level of industry in their combined zone; in any case industry in the combined zone was not recovering so well as in the Soviet zone where production stood at 52 per cent of the pre-war level. But the main deficiency in the British draft was that it paid no attention to the part that the German people themselves should play in their recovery. In conclusion he pressed his demand for reparations (without mentioning the precise sum), and declared that German central agencies should be established immediately as a first step towards a German central Government.

Mr. Marshall said it was the Soviet Union that had continually blocked U.S. efforts to get unity over particular economic projects on the Control Council. He asked M. Molotov to state whether he regarded the payment of \$10,000m. to the Soviet Union in addition to reparations to other countries as a condition of German unity. He said that they had increased coal production in the bi-zone by 100,000 tons a day, and that exports had shown a fourfold increase in twelve months.

Mr. Bevin said that "reparations should not be obtained by making one ally pay them to another".

Dec. 6.—M. Bidault and Mr. Marshall agreed that Mr. Bevin's document should form the basis of discussion. M. Molotov said it contained points with which his Government disagreed, and there were also omissions. He did not consider it should be used as a basis of discussion. The advantage of the documents which he would put in was that they contained several agreed points, whereas Mr. Bevin's contained none. He then circulated "supplementary proposals covering parts of the problem" as follows:

"1. The controlling Powers recognise the necessity of accelerating the restoration of the civilian industry, agriculture, and transport of Germany and the raising of the living standard of the German people, the necessity of participation by Germany in the restoration of the economy of European countries which suffered from German aggression, and the expansion of her foreign trade. In the realisation of these tasks account must be taken of the interests of security and the prevention of the restoration of Germany's war industry. Inasmuch as successes in the matter of Germany's economic restoration depend first and foremost on the efforts of the German people themselves and on the possibility of carrying out appropriate measures all over Germany, this demands the creation of all-German economic organs fulfilling their functions under the control of the four Powers. [Details about the control were then given.]

"2. An alteration of the Control Council's decision of March 26, 1946, to provide for a rise in the level of German industry so that the annual steel production will in the near future be brought up to 10m.-

12m. tons. The central German departments are to be charged with the drafting of measures for the restoration of Germany's economy within the limits of the new level of industry, taking into account Germany's duty of unconditional fulfilment of the reparation and other basic obligations imposed on her.

"3. With the formation of central German departments and with the establishment of a procedure of fulfilment of reparation and other basic obligations by Germany, the economic partitions between the zones will be liquidated, and the necessary conditions for the freedom of movement of goods all over Germany will be established. All zonal German economic organs, embracing one or several zones, will also be liquidated."

He said if the Ministers wanted a document covering the whole problem, they had before them 2 other Moscow documents.

Mr. Marshall said that the proposals were fractional and involved going over a record of disagreement. He asked M. Molotov to put forward a single, comprehensive document for the next meeting.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Nov. 28.—The Assembly agreed to a French proposal for a 24-hour adjournment in order that fresh attempts might be made at bridging the differences between Jews and Arabs.

Nov. 29.—An Arab proposal for a federal State composed of Jewish and Arab cantons was rejected.

The Assembly approved the plan for the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab States and the international city of Jerusalem, and appointed a commission of 5 members (Bolivia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Panama, and the Philippines) to implement the plan. The voting was as follows: For (33)—Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, White Russia, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Ukraine, South Africa, Uruguay, Soviet Union, United States, Venezuela.

Against (13)—Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Persia, Afghanistan, Cuba, Egypt, Greece, India, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Yemen.

Abstaining (10)—Argentina, Britain, Chile, China, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Honduras, Mexico, Yugoslavia.

Absent—Siam.

The Syrian delegate declared the decision to be "illegal and unjust".

THE PALESTINE COMMITTEE

Nov. 24.—M. Tsarapkin said that if Britain had not intended to implement the United Nations recommendations it need not have brought the matter to the Assembly at all. No member of the United Nations was entitled to make any conditions as to the terms on which it would co-operate in implementing such recommendations.

An Arab resolution asking that, before the Assembly decided anything, advisory opinion should be sought from the International Court of Justice "whether the United Nations or any member States are competent to enforce or recommend the enforcement of any proposal concerning the constitution and future Government of Palestine, in particular of any plan of partition, which is contrary to the wishes or adopted without the consent of the inhabitants of Palestine," was defeated by one vote. A Danish proposal that the Security Council should put its authority, beside that of the Assembly, behind the commission if and when trouble arose in Palestine was carried.

Nov. 25.—Sir Carl Berendsen (New Zealand), declared: "My Government wants to vote for partition, but we have the gravest apprehensions about enforcement and implementation." The "woefully weak provisions" of the partition plan in this aspect should be strengthened. It would help New Zealand, Sir Carl Berendsen went on, "if we could have at the plenary session a declaration by the members of the United Nations, and particularly by the five permanent members of the Security Council, that if the contingency we fear—disorder and

bloodshed in Palestine—arises they will join in a united and concerted effort to suppress violence by an international military force to which all members of the United Nations will contribute. This is a duty which the United Nations owes to itself and also to the Arab and Jewish people of Palestine.”

When the partition plan was voted on, it was carried by 25 votes to 13, with 17 abstentions. Two countries absented themselves.

UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATIONS

THE INTERNATIONAL BANK

Dec. 2.—Mr. Robert Garner, the President, said in Washington that the bank was unlikely to make loans to Europe under the Marshall plan “at least until well into next year”.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE

Dec. 6.—Afghanistan, Egypt, Greece, Iran, Iraq, the Lebanon, Syria, and Turkey put forward a demand in the form of an amendment to the draft trade Charter that they should be given the right to establish new regional systems of tariff preference. In discussion on a voting system, Britain favoured a system which would give the U.S.A. 5 per cent of the votes, while the U.S.A. favoured one which would give it 20 per cent of the total votes.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Dec. 2.—The Commission began a ten days' session in Geneva under chairmanship of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.

Dec. 4.—A resolution was adopted setting up three working groups to deal with the problems respectively of a declaration of human rights, a multilateral convention and its ultimate implementation. The groups were to be appointed by the chairman and to consist of five delegates each.

THE FOREIGN MINISTERS DEPUTIES

Nov. 27.—The deputies discussed a French proposal, an annex to the report of the Austrian Treaty Commission on the question of German assets in Austria. The essence of the proposal was that in disposing of German assets in Austria among the Allies part should be made over in rights or ownership of physical property and part be commuted into a cash claim. The tentative figure given as the total redemption sum was \$100m.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST CONFERENCE

Nov. 28.—The conference opened in Antwerp and 22 Socialist parties, including for the first time those of the U.S.A. and India, were represented.

Nov. 30.—The conference rejected the claim of the Bulgarian Socialists for full membership by nine votes to eight, but admitted them as observers with votes. A resolution was passed deploring the harm done to working-class unity by recent attacks on democratic Socialists and their leaders. A resolution advocating planned European co-operation, while frankly recognising the differences between the western and eastern Socialists on the Marshall plan, was adopted unanimously. The conference also agreed unanimously on an appeal to all Governments to open the door to displaced persons. A further resolution urged that a definite breach in Germany should be avoided because it would disrupt European unity. German key industries, the resolution said, should be socialised under international supervision.

It was stated by Mr. Madhu Limaye (Socialist Party of India) that his party was willing to lead in organising co-operation of Socialist parties in India and Africa among themselves, and also with the International Socialist Conference. He declared: "This conference is, to my mind, still too much European-minded. India has to help the Socialists of Asia and Africa to take their rightful place in its ranks. For this reason our party has decided to call a Socialist conference from those countries."

Dec. 1.—It was decided by 12 votes to 4 (Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Palestine), with 2 abstentions (Italy and the Jewish International League) to admit German Socialists to future conferences. The conference decided that the restoration of the Socialist International was at present inopportune.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1948

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| Jan. | 4 | Transfer of Power in Burma. |
| " | 17 | Pan-American Union. Ninth Congress of American States, Bogotá. |
| Feb. | 2 | Economic and Social Council, Lake Success. |
| " | 15 | General Election in Paraguay. |
| " | 19 | U.N. Maritime Conference, Geneva. |
| Mar. | 7 | General Election in Italy. |
| " | 23 | U.N. Conference on Freedom of Information, Geneva. |
| " | — | General Election in Eire. |
| May | 17 | Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations, Geneva. |
| June | — | U.N. Trusteeship Council, Lake Success. |
| " | — | World Power Conference, Stockholm. |
| " | 17 | I.L.O. Conference, San Francisco. |
| July | 12 | Economic and Social Council, Geneva. |
| Oct. | 1 | Arab and Jewish States in Palestine become independent. |